SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER
The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential use
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

WHERE DO WE GET OUR DRINKING WATER?
The source of drinking water used by SAWS Castle Hills is ground water from the Edwards Aquifer. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the susceptibility and types of contaminants that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions.

The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at [http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/).

For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our systems, please contact us.

ALL DRINKING WATER MAY CONTAIN CONTAMINANTS
When drinking water meets federal standards, there may not be any health benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of certain contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

SECONDARY CONSTITUENTS
Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron), which are found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document, but they may affect the appearance and taste of your water.

HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD
If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. This water supply is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead/).

SPECIAL NOTICE
You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immune-compromised such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; those who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders can be particularly at risk from infections. You should seek advice about drinking water from your physician or health care provider. Additional guidelines appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

For more information on your drinking water, helps you become knowledgeable in environmental protection agency. The report was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This report is a summary of the quality of water San Antonio Water System.
DEFINITIONS

The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

ALG (Action Level Goal) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs protect public health by setting limits for water contaminants, which are designed to ensure that the water is safe to drink.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLs protect public health by setting limits for disinfectants used to control microbial contaminants.

SECONDARY AND OTHER CONSTITUENTS NOT REGULATED

Not associated with adverse health effects.

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Note: The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

By-product of drinking water chlorination.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Excess of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

CONTACT US

Questions About Your Water Quality Report?
If you would like more information or a copy of this Water Quality Report, call:
210-233-3176

Call 24 Hours a Day to:
• Report leaks, main breaks, or sewer back-ups
• Discuss water quality concerns
210-704-SAWS (210-704-7297)

In Your Neighborhood
SAWS External Relations team extends its community outreach efforts with neighborhood leaders through homeowners associations and neighborhood meetings, schools and community gatherings. Call us for more information about how we can assist in your neighborhood.
210-332-3246

Website
Our website has the latest news and program information on water issues.
www.saws.org

En Español
Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar al 210-233-3176
Para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.